

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-24 (canceled).

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method of making a flat foundation for a floor of a structure ~~such as a building~~ without substantial excavation comprising the steps of:

excavating an earth base course (1),

providing at least one drainage bedding layer (2) on the earth base course (1);

compacting the bedding layer (2) using multiple travels of a roller on the bedding layer.

placing at least one layer of a cellular foil (3) having vertically extending and upwardly open compartments on the ~~earth base course (1)~~ drainage bedding layer (2).

overfilling the compartments of said cellular foil (3) with fill (4) of quarry stone of grain size 8 to 63 mm so that the fill (4) extends above the height of the cellular foil (3) by at least 25 cm.

compacting the fill (4) over the cellular foil by at least eight travels of a roller of 10 to 11 metric tons weight and with vibration to form compacted fill (4), and

laying a floor layer (5) of the structure on the compacted fill.

Claims 26-27 (canceled).

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method of making a flat foundation for a floor according to claim ~~[[26]]~~ 25 wherein the material of the drainage bedding layer (2) is finer

than the material of the fill (4).

Claim 29 (currently amended): A method of making a flat foundation for a floor according to claim 25, including the further step of providing at least one layer of geotextile (6) below the cellular foil (3).

Claims 30-31 (canceled).

Claim 32 (previously presented): A method of making a flat foundation for a floor according to claim 25 in which at least one further layer of fill (4) is placed over the compacted fill (4) and wherein the further layer of fill (4) is then compacted.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A method of making a flat foundation for a floor according to claim 25 in which two further layers of fill (4) are placed over the compacted fill (4) and wherein the two further layers of fill (4) are compacted.